

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for courtesies extended during the telephone interview of June 3, 2005.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 17, and 25 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 10, 17, and 25.

Claim Objections

Examiner objected to claim 9 because of a typographical error. Applicant has amended claim 9 to correct the typographical error. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

Claim Amendments

As discussed with the Examiner during the telephone interview on June 3, 2005, independent claims 1, 10, 17, and 25 have been amended to clarify that validation of configuration information is done while inputting the configuration information to the interface. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph [0215] (page 89 from line 10 to line 19) of the instant specification. Further, claims 1, 10, 17 and 25 have been amended to clarify that notification of components of the management system is done based on a notification request that is registered by the components and that a listener of the management system provides notification of a modification to the components affected by a change in inputted configuration information if the notification request is registered by the components. Support for these amendments can be found in paragraphs [0048] (page 18 from line 15 to line 21) and [0076] – [0077] (page 28 from line 10 to line 24) of the instant specification. Finally, claims 6, 12, 21, and 30 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-33 stand rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2003/0105838 (hereinafter “Presley”) and U.S. Publication No. 2003/0028624 (hereinafter “Hasan”) either individually or in combination to render the claimed invention obvious. Independent claims 1, 10, 17 and 25 have been amended to clarify the present invention recited. Claims 6, 12, 21, and 30 have been cancelled by this action and therefore the rejection is moot as to these claims. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant’s disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). See MPEP 706.02(j).

The initial burden is on the Examiner to provide some suggestion of the desirability of doing what the inventor has done. “To support the conclusion that the claimed invention is directed to obvious subject matter, either the references must expressly or impliedly suggest the claimed invention or the examiner must present a convincing line of reasoning as to why the artisan would have found the claimed invention to have been obvious in light of the teachings of the references.” *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ 972, 973 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985). See MPEP 706.02(j).

Applicant asserts that Presley and Hasan either individually or in combination do not teach or suggest the claimed invention. Specifically, Presley does not teach notification of components of the management system done based on a notification request that is registered by the components and that a listener of the management system provides notification of a modification to the components affected by a change in inputted configuration information if the notification request is registered by the components as recited in the amended claims.

In Presley, all network components and servers in the managed domain are probed to identify, register, and validate any changed components or servers (See, Presley at paragraph 0066). Following validation, in Presley, configuration changes are sent to the specific server for which the

component configuration is defined and the changed or runtime configuration information of the component is registered on the management server (See, Presley at paragraph 0078, 0081). Optionally, Presley provides mappings of configurations defined between at least two components and the mappings are enforced by probing the validated configurable parameters for each component (See, Presley at paragraph 0014). Presley teaches that configuration information is received in conformance with an XML schema (See, Presley at paragraph 0037.)

Unlike amended claims 1, 10, 17 and 25 of the present invention, which recite that “notification of components of the management system is done based on a notification request that is registered by the components and that a listener of the management system provides notification of a modification to the components affected by a change in inputted configuration information if the notification request is registered by the components”, notification requests of configuration changes by components are unnecessary with Presley because changed configuration information is identified during probing, registered in the management server, and sent to the specific server. Similarly, notification of configuration changes to components between dependent components is not necessary in Presley because changes in configuration information of dependent components are identified and enforced during probing of the components.

Further, Presley does not teach validation of configuration information in compliance with schema while inputting. While Presley admittedly teaches that configuration information is received in conformance with an XML schema, Presley neglects to perform validation of configuration information while the configuration information is input into the interface as recited in the claims of the present invention. Solely receiving the information conforming to a schema is not the same as the affirmative step of validation during input as recited in the invention.

Accordingly, Presley fails to teach (i) notifying the components of the management system based on a notification request associated with the components, wherein the notification request is registered by the components; or (ii) validating the configuration information while inputting the configuration information into the interface, as recited in amended claims 1, 10, 17 and 25 of the present invention. For the reasons stated above, Presley does not teach or suggest all limitations of amended claims 1, 10, 17 and 25.

Further, Hasan fails to teach or suggest that which Presley lacks. Hasan does not teach what Presley lacks in regards to validation while inputting configuration information because it is silent to the concept of validation. Applicant asserts that Hasan actually teaches away from the present invention. Specifically, Hasan teaches that when there is a change in configuration information for

a device or service, the stored information is downloaded to each of the multifunction devices (See, Hasan at paragraph 0046). Accordingly, notifying components of the system as recited in the claims of the present invention would not be necessary. Similarly, Hasan teaches that service integration allows for service changes made to one service having an effect on another service to immediately propagate to the effected services (See, Hasan at paragraph 0126). Again, notification of configuration changes in Hasan is unnecessary with service integration because the changes in services that affect other services are immediately propagated. For the reasons stated above, Hasan does not teach or suggest what Presley lacks. Thus, Hasan does not teach or suggest all limitations of amended claims 1, 10, 17 and 25.

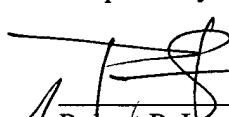
Further, neither Presley nor Hasan teach a listener of the management system that provides notification of modification to the components affected by a change of the inputted configuration information if a notification request is registered by the components, as recited in the amended claims.

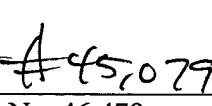
For the reasons stated above, Presley and Hasan, whether considered separately or in combination do not support the rejection of independent claims 1, 10, 17 and 25. Claims 2-5, 7-9, 11, 13-16, 18-20, 22-24, 26-29, and 31-33 depend, directly or indirectly from claims 1, 10, 17 and 25 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes this reply to be fully responsive to all outstanding issues. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/547001; P6345).

Respectfully submitted,

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